



COO Committee Communique

Date: 5 August 2026

The COO Committee met today at the Department of Finance to discuss the following matters:

Enterprise bargaining update

The Committee received an enterprise bargaining update from the APS Chief Negotiator.

Closing the Gap – COO Tiger Team Final Report

The Committee noted the Priority Reform 3 Grants COO Tiger Team Final Report, endorsed closure of the Tiger Team, and agreed to progress the report as a sequenced, modular package that aligns with the Priority Reform Roadmap and broader work to improve grants administration.

Transforming Structural Barriers for First Nations people onboarding in the APS

The Committee endorsed development of an APS Alternative Citizenship Verification Pathway for First Nations applicants who cannot reasonably obtain standard documentary evidence of Australian citizenship. The Committee noted that the pathway will maintain existing citizenship and personnel security requirements while addressing a systemic barrier to APS employment. The Committee also noted development of a standard Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Declaration form to support implementation across agencies.

Collaboration Circle update

The Committee noted an update from the Collaboration Circle and the emerging focus areas. The Committee considered a revised operating model for the Collaboration Circle and offered opportunities to strengthen its advice with implementation and oversight.

Reporting requirements for the APS Strategic Commissioning Framework

The Committee noted the Government's expectation that agencies continue to implement the Strategic Commissioning Framework and comply with agreed streamlined reporting arrangements.

Compliance with the Indigenous Procurement Policy Mandatory Minimum Indigenous Participation Requirements

The Committee noted the Mandatory Minimum Indigenous Participation Requirements (MMR) compliance data and agreed to continue to focus on improving MMR reporting compliance.

6-monthly report to Secretaries Board

The Committee endorsed the 6-monthly update for progression to Secretaries Board that highlighted its considerations and achievements during the reporting cycle.

Next Meeting

The next COO Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 23 September 2026.